

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Upon entry of this amendment, which amends claims 1, 2, 60, 61, 75, 76, and adds new claims 90-92, claims 1-3, 5, 49, 51, 54-57, 60-65, 69-72, 75-80, 84-87, and 90-92 will be pending. In the office action, claims 1-3, 5, 49, 51, 54-57, 60-65, 69-72, 75-80, and 84-87 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Gupta et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,546,405 B2, hereinafter “Gupta”). Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the claims in view of the amendments above and remarks below.

Interview Summary

Applicants thank the Examiner for the courtesy of the interview conducted on July 10, 2007. During the interview, amendments to the claims were discussed.

Claim Rejections

Claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over Gupta. Applicants submit that Gupta does not disclose or suggest every element of claim 1, as amended. For example, Gupta does not disclose or suggest automatically resizing the first screen display size to be a second screen display size that is smaller than the first screen display size, the second screen display size including the playback of the audiovisual production and providing a text window, wherein at least a portion of the text window is included in a portion of space previously occupied by the first screen display size.

In Gupta, an interface is shown in Fig. 2 that includes a window 210 that includes video. Additionally, temporal annotations may be displayed in other windows of the interface.

Claim 1 recites that the audio-visual production is played back in a first screen display size. Upon selection of the message indicator, the first screen display size is automatically re-sized to be a second screen display size where the second screen display size is smaller than the first screen display size and includes the playback of the audio-visual production. A text window is provided that occupies at least a portion of the space previously occupied by the first screen display size. At least a portion of the message may be displayed in the text window along with at least a portion of a plurality of messages in a thread the message is included in. Gupta does not disclose or suggest re-sizing of the video window as claimed.

Particular embodiments provide many advantages. For example, when viewing an audio-visual production, there may be limited screen real estate and thus it may be desirable to render the audio-visual production in a large screen view. A thread of messages may become large when many people respond and comment and this may interfere with a user's viewing experience. Thus, particular embodiments allow for the re-sizing of the screen display size that includes the audio-visual production when an interest in a message indicator is provided. When this occurs, the message and at least a portion of the thread the message is included in can be displayed. Thus, a user's viewing experience is maximized.

Accordingly, applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection of claim 1. Claims 2-3, 5, 49-50, 52-59, and 90 depend from claim 1 and thus derive patentability at least therefrom. These claims also recite additional non-obvious and novel features. For example, claim 90 recites that the first screen display size comprises a full screen view and the message indicator is superimposed on the audio-visual production. Accordingly, the full screen display size may be used when playing back the audio-visual production. The message indicator may be a small representation of the message and the threads. The message indicator can be displayed on the full screen display size without significantly interfering with the viewer experience. However, when the message indicator is selected, the full screen display size may be re-sized to a smaller size and the text window is displayed with the thread.

Applicants submit that claims 60-65, 69-72, 75-80, and 84-87, and 91-92 should be allowable for at least a similar rationale as discussed above with respect to claim 1.

Applicant respectfully submits that the present claims are in condition for allowance and an early Notice of Allowance is earnestly sought. The undersigned may be contacted at the telephone number below at the Examiner's convenience if it would help in the prosecution of this matter.

Respectfully submitted,

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